DAILY-WEEKLY-SUNDAY.

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1905.

Shall courtesy be done only to the rich and only by the rich? In good breeding, which differs, if at all, from high breeding only as it gracefully remembers the rights of others, rather the courter of the rights of others. remembers the rights to not so own rights, I discern no special connection with wealth or birth; but rather that it lies in human nature itself, and is due from all men toward all men.

—Carlyle,

#### The Duello.

In September, 1890, a death resulted a the Virginia Military Institute from a fight which took place under circum stances almost identical with those of the lamentable occurence at the United States Naval Academy. A court of inquiry was convened to

ascertain and report the facts and express an opinion. The court was emphatic in the expression of the opinion that the fight ought not to have oc curred, and that its occurence was due to a false code of honor, which the existing corps of cadets found in vogue and received and accepted from the predecessors. The facts elicited by the court clearly and fully indicated that ir proceedings under the "code of honor scrupulous regard had ever been had towards securing fair play; that combats between cadets unequally matched in size or strength were not permitted to take place; that every practical precaution had been taken to prevent serious bodily harm, and that the death of the cade in question was accidental, notwith standing, Superintendent Shipp issued general order, in which he said.

standing, Superintendent Shipp issued a general order, in which he said.

With the solemn memory of this fatal fight fresh in the mind of ait, the superintendent makes an earnest appeal to cadets, to rise to the dignity of true manhood, to discard all faise codes and standards and to fear nothing, except to do wrong. Quarreis and differences among gentlemen arise from real or fancied insult, offence or injury. If real, a proper resentment is natural, until duapology, amends or reparation is made. But this resentment should be an exhibition of displeasure and not of passion. The parties to a quarrei, mutually smarting under a sense of injury and wrong, are in no condition to make a caim, judicial review of the causes of offence or difference, nor to see and pursue the course which Christian charity and gentlemenly courtesy make obligatory upon all. Hence has arisen the Jusage, now almost universal among gentlemen and soldlers, of organizing a board of honor, or a committee, of arbitration, to whom the differences that arise among gentlemen are reterred for adjustment; and "he who declines to abide the judgment of such friendly court and to make honorable amends for any wrongs which he may thus he adjudged to info committee, puts liftinguished to info committee, puts liftinguished to info committee, puts liftinguished to passion, rather than or reason, and wants vengeance and not satisfaction. To quote the words of a distinguished goider, "he civilization and refinement of the present age emphatically condenn personal encounters between gentlemen; gentlemen is on to deliberation on the cally condemn personal encounters be-tween gentlemen; gentlemen do not de-liberately engage in puglistic encount-For many years it required great moral courage to decline a challenge to personal combat—courage of a far high-er order than that displayed by the puglist or the duelst. But this is no longer the case; enlightened public son-timent ever sustains him who declines such an encounter, and emphatically condemns him who engages in it. There is no longer any excuse for gentlemen who are amenable to the same social laws, to resort to the uncivilized prac-tice of settling their differences by blows. To batter and be battered may display courage, though of a very low order, such as is possessed by the lowest grades of men, but it constitutes no real atonesuch as is possessed by the lowest grades of men, but it constitutes no real atonebent for a wrong. Frank apology and 
substantial reparation for any wrong 
committed constitute the only atonement 
consistent with the honor and courage 
of a true gentleman." With this presentation of the subject, which the superintendent hopes will convince the understanding, and enlist the co-operation of 
all in effecting a reform which will reflect honor upon the institute and upon 
the corps of cadets, the attention of all 
concerned is directed to sections 11, 148, 
149, of the academic regulations. All officers, cadet officers, and non-commissloned, and sentinels, will be held to 
strict accountability under the regulations for the suppression of fishing in 
the barracks and on the grounds of the 
institute; and any cadet known to have 
been a party to a prearranged combat 
will be dismissed.

This is wholesome and manly doctrine

This is wholesome and manly doctrine for youths, Personal difficulties are sometimes unavoidable, but they are cer tainly not to be encouraged by a socalled code of honor which compels ; man to settle his quarrels with another by brutal combat, or else be branded coward. Surely our institutions of learning, which are designed to teach good morals and moral courage, canno stand for such a code.

One of the most pathetic stories 1 American history is the account of the duel between Burr and Hamilton. Ham ilton was opposed to duelling, and he lef a written statement in which he se forth his "most cogent reasons" there for. They were thus enumerated:

creature in a private combat forbidden by the laws. "Second-My wife and children are ex-

tremely dear to me, and my life is of the utmost importance to them in various views,
"Third—I feel a sense of obligation to ward my creditors, who, in case of ac-cident to me, by the forced sale of my property, may be in some degree suffer-880 ers. I did not think myself at liberty, as a man of probity, lightly to expose them

> to hazard Fourth-I am conscious of no ill-will "Fourth—I am conscious of no ill-will to Colonel Burr distinct from political opposition, which, as I trust, has proceeded from pure and upright motives.
>
> "Last, I shall hazard much and can possibly gain nothing, by the issue of the Interview

And he added: And he added:
"I have resolved, if our interview is conducted in the usual manner, and it please God to give me the opportunity, to reserve and throw away my first fire, and I have thoughts even of reserving my second fire and thus giving a double opportunity to pause and reflect."

But the opportunity was not given to him. Burr's aim was sure; his first shot went into the vitals of Hamilton, and the brilliant man fell with a mortal wound, an unwilling victim of the code of honor which he could not escape It was a cruel and remorseless code, comnelling the obedience even of those whose consciences revolted against it. By and by an enlightened public sentimen abolished it, and shall the schools in which our youth are trained still cling to the unrighteous tradition? The code was long since abolished, and the example should be followed by all other institutions where it is in vogue,

#### Need of a Building Inspector.

In the news columns of The Times Dispatch of yesterday a prominent builder was quoted as having said that he had built many houses in this city during Light Infantry Blues. The organization the past few years which he would be came into existence in 1793 and has never afraid to pull down, for the reason that if he should do so, the walls next to them In war or in peace, on the field of battle would not stand. The argument used in time of riot or disorder, upon occaagainst the creation of the office of building inspector is that we have no always given a splendid account of itself. 'building code" under which such an official would operate. But that argument proves nothing except that we should have such a code, and have it in operation as soon as possible. If there were any doubt on the subject, the testimony of the builder from whom we have quoted removes it.

The ordinance creating the office of inspector and Board of Public Safety is in part at least, a "building code, Among other things, it provides that "no wall, structure, building, part or parts thereof, shall be built, constructed, alter repaired or removed in the city of Richmond, except in conformity with the provisions of this ordinance"; that overy person desiring to erect or alter any building shall apply to the inspector for a permit, and in his written application shall state clearly and fully the work contemplated, giving the location and the estimated cost thereof; and, when the inspector requires it, plans and specifications must be furnished. After in spection of the proposed location and plans and specifications, the inspector is required to grant the permit with the least possible delay, not exceeding ten days, provided there is compliance with this and other existing ordinances in Richmond; but, if there is not compil ance, he must refuse to grant the permit until the plans are altered to suit. Appeal may be taken from the decision of the aspector to the Board of Public Safety. to be composed of the Mayor, the city engineer and the chief of the fire department. A special tax is to be levied on building permits, ranging from one to twenty-five dollars, according to the cost of the work, and this, we imagine, will go far towards defraying the expenses of the inspection system.

This may be an imperfect code, but it is better than no code at all, and it can be perfected in time. Certain it is that it is sufficiently comprehensive, when exe cuted by a competent inspector, to prevent the erection of unsafe buildings The ordinance should be adopted.

#### A Frenchman On American Manners.

One of the most striking features of which foreigners size it up. To the itinerant tutor, Briton or Frenchman, our life is as an open primer wherein every should the Blues be neglected?

runner may glance and read. The obser want alien wastes no time in the labor ious collection and sifting of evidence perceiving the needlessness of it. A week in New York, or some other equally re presentative centre, is all that his astuteness demands. Thoroughly equipped by a round of metropolitan "sights," he sails back to the old country, and becomes an authority on the manners and morals the customs and culture of benighted America.

A case in point is M. Huret, of the Paris Figaro, M. Huret prepared himself for the task of exposing America far more faithfully than some other Europeans, his stay over here running to the surprising total of some months. The length of his visit merely reveals the strength of the Huret character, because there can be little doubt that he had a bad time of it. He lived apparently in a continuous state of moral recoil, in the midst of which he had constant occasion to jot down damning observations like these:

"The American surprises you with his contempt for you on the cars or rail-ways, for instance, you feel the shoes of the man behind you in your back. Gentlemen chew tobacco or gum and spil everywhere. America has only one thing that is little—the napkins. On the contrary, the spittoons are wells.—I have seen people at Sherry's wipts their fingers and mouths on the table cloth. The American bears no haired. He has evidences, he beats them, or is beaten.—A tunnit of sayety greets you. Five hundred thousand human beings are shricking, cating, laughing, drinking." "The American surprises you with his We omit one other stricture regarding the use of the handkerchief in this coun try, as being a little too pertinent for good taste. Even without this, we find ourselves pretty severely scored. We chew tobacco, with the guld's inevitable exult. Mighty cuspidors are a nationa symbol. We eat a good deal it seems (presumably removing the quid for th purpose), and wipe our mouths on what

point to plant our tribles, with simple firmness, in the backs of any foreign Johnnies' that have the hardlhood to draw near. If we dislike a man, it is our naive ambition to beat him, rather than to summon him to a duel in operabouffe, where to do an injury to one opponent is to sin unpardonably against good manners and the code of French shonor. After the combat, licking or licked, we shake hands, apply beefsteak to our wounded parts, and go our severa

Ways. The opportunity to see ourselves a others see us is always devoutly to be wished for, Mr. Robert Burns, as is well known, anticipated us in the expression of this pleasing sentiment by a century or more. M. Huret, in telling Americans candidly what he thinks of them, has tributed his mite to the gayety of nations. We thank him. He could now in crease our indebtedness by telling us definitely in what social circles he gathered his genial data. Those who might naturally conclude that M. Huret, while with us, dallied overlong in the New York Bowery, may deem their line of reasoning upset by Parisian's reference to a Fifth Avenue restaurant. It is always well to bear in mind, however, that in these degenerate days, many a man with a Bowery training is exuberantly wielding a Sherry pocket book,

### Give the Blues An Armory.

There is no military organization in the land with a better record for conduct and honorable service than the Richmond failed to respond to the call to duty sions of dress parade, the battalion has It deserves due consideration on account of service, and it deserves something more for the high character of its memhers and for its handsome appearance in public. No matter what the occasion. the Blues battalion is the pride of Richmond. Yet the Council has never taker sufficient pride in the battalion to give it an armory. The loft in which the men meet for drill is without conveniences, not to speak of comforts, and when the men have returned from a tiresome and dusty march, there is no place in the "armory," so-called, for them to get a bath. It is a reflection upon the organization, and it is a reflection upon the community that this military organization should be treated with so little consideration. If the Blues battalion were maintained for the pleasure and benefit of the men, the case would be different But it exists for the benefit of Richmond The men are subject to duty in all directions, but Richmond has the firs claim upon their services, and Richmond should give them a decent and desirable armory.

The Constitution declares that "a wel regulated militia, composed of the body of the people, trained to arms, is the proper, natural and safe defense" of our social, economic and governmental in stitutions; and, again, that "in all case the military should be under strict su bordination to and governed by the civi power." Therefore it is the part of government to provide proper equipmen and a suitable place for the perform ance of drills and necessary assemblies The battalion is not able to build a armory on its own account, and even if it were, it should not be required to do so. The men give their service; the government is required to provide the conveniences. It is a matter of duty and

The city is now giving the Blues \$1.500 a year rent money. This sum-would go far towards paying the interest on a sum sufficient to build a first-class armory. We hope that the Council will see its way soon to make the necessary appropriation, and we believe that in so doing it would carry out the wishes American civilization is the faculty with of the community. Other military or ganizations in the city have very properly been provided with an armory. Why

## A Wrecker As An Illustration.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir,-in your leading editorial to-day on 'Municipal Operation,' you say: ''It is inconceivable that any private corporation, owning so valuable a property as the Richmond city gas works, would have failed to make suitable provisions for the works, to keep them in thorough tepair and equal to the demands of their customers," etc. How can you make good this position in face of the fact that under the Fisher regime our street railway system and service were a dis-grace to the city of Richmond? It is notorious that suitable provision was not nade for the maintenance of the property in question, and that it was not in thorough repair and equal to the de-mands' of our people.

mands" of our people.

I am not an advocate of manicipal ownership, but as an interested reader of what is being said on the subject, seemingly desire to see both sides fairly

LEX.

Richmond, November 8, 1905. We are surprised that our intelligent correspondent should foring forward as an illustration the conduct of a man wh was a wrecker and not a promoter. It goes without saying that we were referring to corporations whose policy is to preserve a valuable property and not to destroy it. It is still inconceivable to us that such a corporation, owning so valu able a property as the Richmond city gas works, would have falled to "make suitable provision" for the works, as the superintendent says the City Council failed to do, to keep them in thorough repair and equal to the demands of customers.

The Farmer and the Negro. It is an interesting coinciden that

hile a convention is seing held in the South to consider the question of fmmigration and fabor, a colored delegate to the meeting in Richmond of the Virginia "First—My religious and moral principles are strongly opposed to the practice of duclling, and it would ever give the pain to shed the blood of a fellow."

Shrick. Also, we simultaneously laugh in the South is due in part to the fact. You cannot bring your riches with you

and drink-a difficult feat for one not that a large number of negroes are buy- into the kingdom, if you are trusting to wersed in American ways, likely to inflict considerable damage on the human hence are not available as farm laborers. windpipe. While travelling, we make it a Whatever the cause, the negroes are leaving the farms and the Southern farmers cannot depend upon the negro race exclusively for labor. Something must be done to get other laborers, and it must be done soon, or Southern agriculture will suffer.

As for the negroes, we do not resent

the Mea that they are disposed to leave the farms in order to better their condition. If any are able to purchase and cultivate farms on their own account; if any are able to engage in trade; if any are able to engage successfully in professional work, we have no quarrel with them. No fair-minded and liberal minded white man is willing to hold the negro in subjection in order that he may have a servant. It is a narrow, bigoted ungenerous and un-Christian view to take. We are for a fair field and equal opportunities under the law to all, that overy man may succeed as well as his talents, his energy and his character allow. In such a race, under such circumstances, some will outstrip others There will be rich men and noor men; there will be masters and servants under the fairest possible conditions; but the conditions should be fair, leaving the consequences to take care of themselves. If the negro wants to leave the farm and seek other occupation, it is his own affair, and peace go with him. But the farmers of the South must learn to get along without him.

### The Jews of Russia.

The movement in Richmond to raise a fund to relieve the distress of the Jews of Russia will appeal to the tender mer cles and generosity of the public. The persecution of these unfortunate people by blood thirsty Russians seems to have become a savage craze and men, womer and children have been butchered without mercy. Those who have escaped have been deprived of their property and the means of support and their condition is most deplorable. The winter has get in and unless liberal relief is forthcoming, many must die from cold and hunger. A Callsh has said, too much cannot be contributed and while a thousand dol lars has already been raised in Richmond as much more as the people will contribute will be gratefully received.

## The Danger of Riches. (Selected for The Times-D'spatch.) "How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God."—

St. Luke xvill, 24. Is it easy, then, for poor poorle enter the kingdom of God? Our Lord did not say so. It is always difficult to enter into that kingdom. It is not entered by wealth, nor is it entered by poverty; these are but external circum stances. It is the heart alone which

We cannot enter into the reasoning of this young ruler's mind; but of one thing we may be sure, there was much good him, for "Jesus, beholding him, loved him." His youth; his beauty, his modesty, his sincerity, all appealed to the Master; He looked upon him, seeing his whole heart and his motives, and ye "loved him." If the Lord could have saved him this test, He would! If He could have thrown wide open the gate But that kingdom has its laws. Christ represented those laws ,obeyed them, insisted upon them; therefore, this omely young man would not be allowed to enter until he, too, had conformed to them. Not his money, nor his station, only himself could squeeze through that 'strait and narrow gate."

It was a critical moment for the Lord Himself. He had to set precedents in His own church, by which all succeed ing Christian ages and institutions should regulate their actions. Was it no tomptation to attach openly a millionaire to cause held in social contempt? Might not one rich man bring other rich men, and so create a fashion?

But there can be no fashion in cruci fixion. Calvary can never be popular The cross can never be a custom of the We do not, cannot, enter that kingdom by money or wit, by genius earning pedigree, or aught that is incl lental or external. Only by the way of the cross do men pass into Christ's kingdom.

This disciples were troubled. They thought a great opportunity had been lost. If this were to be the policy of the Master, salvation was simply impossible. How could the kingdom get on without such people as this rich young man Who, then, can be saved?" they ask with wonderment.

Our Lord explained the whole questlo in one word by saying, "Children, they that trust not in riches." There is no harm in riches of themselves. They may be instruments of the greatest possible good. In right hands the world is better and happier for a Christian administration of wealth. The Lord is not abusing or condemning riches; but He is pointing out that men may trust in their riches, may rely on their power, idolize their own possessions; thus, be unwilling and unfit to take the step which leads from the material to the spiritual.

Our Lord did not say it was impo sible: he said it was hard. And is it not? Let those answer who all their lives have used their money to make life easy minister to their pride or comfort. The very thing they have trusted in makes their upward progress "hard."

Riches do not refer alone to money. There are riches of many kinds-centres of pride, of vanity, of self-trust and idolatry, of pleasure and self-interest. The whole fabric must be shaken to its base, torn up by its foundations, ere Christ will begin to build.

Notice the deceitfulness of all kinds of riches. Riches may corrupt the best and purest of you. Take care! of life" are classed with "the deceitfulness of riches" in drawing away the soul from it its eternal destiny. Beware of both; shun all and everything that hin-

them. But if you offer them wholly to Christ and will sanctify them to His use,

bring them all. You cannot carry your intellectual pride with you, unless you will consecrate your intellect to the study of the Cross; then bring it all.

You can bring with you nothing of the nature of patronage to Christ, You cannot compliment or blas Him. He lies beyond any such range. We can only teach Him by His own way of sacrifice, self-immolation and transformation--great mystery that to be put into words, yet it may become a blessed and conscious spiritual experience.

Blessed is he to whom that experience is a glad reality.

In connection with the cordini reception which President Roosevelt received in the South, the Journal of Education remarks that in this era of good feeling it is a good time for the North to greet the first great book publishing company of the South-the B. F. Johnson Company, of Richmond; that they have been making such acceptable books that they are used in the North as well as in the South. Our contemporary well says that America's future domestic condition depends in no small degree upon the use of those text books in all sections that know no prejudice, positive or negative. "The West Virginia Hills," it goes on, "ought to be sung from Maine to Oregon, "Dixie" ought to keep pace with "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," in Boston and Charleston, It was never more true than in this connection, that if we train up the children in the patrious way in which they should go, they will not depart from it. The South and the North must dwell together for all time. There will never be another thought of disunion. It is equally true that if one section suffers all sections will suffer with it. The greatest of all needs is that we should all dwell together in unity."

We are pleased to know that our Rich mond publishing house is doing such excellent missionary work.

The continued silence of Abdul, of Turkey, is a trifle ominous. The expected yielding attitude on his part is a bit slow about asserting itself. Meanwhile he has been buying guns of approved shooting capacity and improving the for-Ufications of the Bosphorus, Turkey has some 600,000 soldiers of very respectable fighting abilities, which it may be fairly assumed that the Powers are not over anxious to run up against. But who is the Porte's back-stiffener? Is this another case of W. Hohenzollern'

"Mr. Shonts Speaks on the Canal, says a headliner. Is the canal far enough along for Mr. Shonts to be "on" it? Or does it merely mean that Mr. Shonts is "onto" the canal? Isn't "in' the proper preposition for canals, any-

At last the exclusion of Poe from the Hall of Fame is sensibly accounted for. The Houston Post explains that it was all due to a little mistake of Chancellor Mc-Cracken, who was under the impression that Edgar Allen was the author of that Poe amendment.

Boss George Cox, of Cincinnati, announces that he is out of politics. The necessary arrangements were fixed un by the people with no trouble whatever

Common fairness compels us to admit that the life insurance president \has proved himself, beyond cavil, a good father, a kindly uncle and a great grandfather.

Tom Lawson, of Bawson, is said to be suing a Michigan gentleman for \$300,000 damages for libel. But would it be possible to libel Tom as badly as that?

Granting that angels are Biblically represented as men, what sex is commonly What will our magazines do for reading matter in the millenium, when there is no longer anybody to expose?

The military fence which Russia is planning to throw about Poland will not

It now seems to be pertinent to inquire what we are going to do with our ex-

It takes a pretty skilful mechanic to epair a busted political machine,

The Czar has hitherto escaped being called the very old Nick.

The Democratic Party Not Dead. The World recently asked if the Demo-cratic party was dying. It is very far from dead.

sevelt's plurality of 505,000 in Pennsylvania has been overturned and the Democratic candidate for State Treasurer is elected by 100,000.

Roosevelt's plurality of 255,000 in Ohio

Roosevelt's plurality of 255,000 in Ohlo is likewise overturned. The Governor and the whole Democratic State ticket are elected by a plurality of approximately 40,000. The Democrats will control both houses of the Legislature,

The Republican candidate for Governor was elected in Massachusetts, but the candidate for Lieutenant-Governor has

candidate for Lieutenant-Governor has a beggariy 2,000 on the face of the returns. Roosevelt had 92,000 in Massachusturns. Roosevelt had 92,000 in Massachusturns have believed that such amazing changes could take place within a year?

That they could take place proves that no party is safe, no boss is safe, no party tradition is safe, in the face of the growing spirit of political independence on the part of the American voter,—New York World.

# SUZUDONT TOOTH POWDER



gives perfect satisfaction. Ask your

## RHYMESFORTODAY

Our Strange Quest.

She was a maid beyond compare,
With pale green eyes and scarlet halr,
And lips as red as lik
(Red link, of course, is what is meant);
And o'er the moonlit sea we went—
An arctic sea, I think.

And all our talk was grand, yet sweet; We spoke with noble lack of heat, Of fine things, great and small; At least, I take it that we did, For what we said then, God forbid I ever should recall.

Then for a space we'd grow quite still— Not, reader, that we each felt ill, Or either indisposed; But how could two maintain bright chat When their young minds were full of that?— How could we keep composed?

For we were on a splendid quest, Which bore us far into the West, Where we now tried to get; Ah, mighty, mighty was our task! But what it was you mustn't ask—The fact is, I forget.

We sailed o'er sens as black as pitch. Or swam-I don't remember which-Till we grew old and stout; But who the maid was by my side. And what had made her pale-green-eyed,

-H 8 H

### Operation of the Gas Works.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

I never could find out.

Sir,-In view of the recent report of Expert Bruce of the system, management and condition of the city gas works, we think the suggestion to establish a muni-cipal electric plant, should be abandoned. As a citizen and taxpayer, I protest against an experiment that may trove as costly and as disastrous as has the running of the city gas works.

In a recent report the superintendent claims the total profits of the gas works to January 1, 1905 to be 4939,035.00, but this

claim and suppositious profit is negatived, and vanishes into " air, when we are confronted with to assertion of we are confronted with the assertion of the expert, that it will take \$1.0,000 to schabilitate the plant. What would a business man think of a concern claiming in a series of years to have cleared \$350.-675.60, and at the same time require for re-capita ization \$769,600? This vaunted asset has been valued and scheduled by the city at \$1,000,000, and yet the last assessment of the commissioners appointed by the Hustings Court, only values the plant at its actual value, viz.: \$123,766. Now the only way to get at results, is to go to the fountain head-headquarters-where everything pertaining to each department is properly charged, and where every-thing received is accurately credited, both income and outgo. If we do this, we will see that there is a vast difference betwoen the a leged receipts and profits claimed by the superintendent and shown by the sources at headquarters.

The office of the special accountant (an

office that should always have existed andshould be perpetuated) shows the fol-lowing facts and figures in regard to the

lty gas works: Fotal cash receipts from 1866 to 1904 in-'Estimated' value of gas used by the city at prices paid by private consum-

Total earnings ... otal expenses for same period, including pay rolls, coal and oll, extensions and connections ...

from operation .. Interest on investment, based on all expenditures and figured annually... \$1,479,850 90

Cost of works to January 1, 1867, not included in above 391,377 26 taxes that

would have accrued to city during period, if assessed annually, on cost of plant to January 1, 1905....

416,624 16 2,287,852 32

\$3,760,647 88

\$ 479,717 22 A seeming profit of In controdistinction to the profit claimed by the superintendent of \$350,635.69. Quite a difference; in the above statement, there is an arbitrary charge of \$1,650,611.19

It is reasonable to suppose in view of the fact, that under the Adams Admin-istration, it was openly charged, and if I romember correctly, proven, that air vas regularly and systematically into the pipes to swell the city "estimate," and to enlarge the bils of private consumers, to enlarge the bils of private consumers, that at least one-fourth (1-4) of this sum might reasonably be deducted, which makes the comfortable little sum of \$412. makes the comfortains little sun of the same state of the comfortain state and fair assumption, inasmuch as the superintendent of the city gas works only charges in his last report for 1904, the city with \$25,652.01 for public consumption. city with \$25,55.201 for public consumption, Tuking this as a fair average for the period named, 38 years, would make 2970,-976.38, instead of the amount estimated and charged, \$1,650,614.19; we, therefore, think it fair that this arbitrary charge of \$1,650,614.19, should be credited by at least \$412,653.55. This sum deducted from the apparent profit as shown by the ac-countant's figures, reduces the profit to \$67,063.61. Neither the superintendent nor has the city accountant charged the city gas works with the insurance paid by the city on this plant. The plant cost The city prior to 1867, \$391,377.26. Leaving out what it has cost since; let us take the present assessment on the buildings of \$119,500, and put the machinery, regardless of cost at \$100,000, which our competent. test or cost at \$100,000, which are competed ient and courteous accountant thinks reasonable, and we find that for the period named, the insurance that the gas works should be charged with amounts to \$125,115. Deducting the apparent profit as shown above, we have a net loss of \$125,015. \$58,061.36. I have made no charge for cost of gas used at the works, cost of street lamp lighting and extinguishing and numerous other items which Expert Bruce says "have been entirely omitted from cost reports."

We respectfully submit the above facts and figures to Alderman Dabney, who states in a communication to your valued states in a communication to your valued officer of October 23d, "the gas works of Richmond have long since reimbursed the city for all money appropriated to

this enterprise."
This enterprise has sever paid the city one dollar on its investment, but This enterprise has a level. The city one dollar on its investment, but has been a tax upon its revenues, as is demonstrated by the facts and figures given above, and the best and only way to get rid of this incubus, is to lease it out to some private corporation, under

## **"77"**

Dr. Humphreys' Seventy-Seven breaks up Grip and

COLD

A Hard Cold takes longer, but is always broken up by "77."

A Stuffy Cold is annoying, but it don't stay long when "77" is used.

A Dangerous Cold loses its terror when 177" is taken; Pneumonia is averted. All Colds yield to "77." It acts di-

rectly on the sick parts, without disturbing the rest of the system. At all Druggists, 25c, or mailed.

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such proper restrictions and safeguards as to prices to be charged the city and citizens, the candle power to be furnished, etc., as will protect the interests of all concerned. In 1898 a proposition was submitted

to the City Council by responsible par-ties to lease the gas works for a period of thirty (30) years upon the following condutions: To furnish "gas to the city, free of cost, at such places along the mains, and in such quantities as may be necessary for the lighting of the city buildings and its streets"; to pay the city the sum of \$40,000 per annunduring the continuance of said lease, to keep in order and light all of its street lumps, and to give the city yearly, as the same may be required, 600 loads of coke for distribution among the poor; to furnism private consumers gas at not exceeding it per thousand, the price then and now charged, the candle power to be not less than 22, and free from sulphurretted hydrogen; to make all necessary exten-sions, repairs and improvements, both to the mains and to the works, as might be necessary, and at the termination of the lease to surrender the works, mains and pant in as good or better condition as they were received from the city; to expend within two years after obtaining possession of the property, not less than two hundred thousand (\$200,009) dollars, in the construction of an additional gasholder XXX, and after two years to expend not less than \$5,000 on an average for the term of thirty (30) years; to pay into the city treasury at the end of each year, during the continuance of the leaso five (5) per cent of the gross receipts from the sale of gas furnished private consumers: so keep the property insured. These parties agreed to give bond for the faithful performance of their contract, and yet strange to say, this proposition was rejected by the Board of Aldermen by a vote of 10 to 2. Just imagine the thousands of dollars that would have been saved the city, had the gas plant been leased upon the terms and conditions named!

If the city will advertise the property for lease, it is possible she may get rid of this white elephant or incubus upon similar terms and conditions. The operation of the city gas works has ation of the city gas works may been costly experiment, the gas furnished has been insufficient in quantity and miserable in quality, and the people would never have submitted to the many impositions and evils they have patiently entertied by dured, had the plant been operated by a

private corporation.

It is just and proper to state, computing the expenses of the Gas Department, no acount has been taken of the rent of the offices occupied by the lighting department, no allowance made for services rendered by other departments of the city government, the legal departments in defending suits, etc., the paving of the streets for original subway work, as well as repairs, which we un-derstand are charged to the street de-partmnt. Water suppied by the city is not charged to this department, all of which are proper and legitimate charges that should be reckoned within the computation of profit and loss.

In regard to the recent letter Frank Jay Gould, I regard it as disin genious and misicading, when he states; "I have long realized that the present street railway and lighting properties in your community, and many of the existoperating loss throughout the year." This may be true if Mr. Gould estimates his profits upon his capitalization, and not upon what the properties cost him. He would hardly assert that he does not have the properties to his inthere is an arbitrary charge of \$1,50,01.15 for gas for municipal purposes. The gas represented by this vast sum was not metred, simply estimated, to swell the receipts of the gas works, and to show a seeming profit. Would any private corporation conduct business along such the gas and the properties conduct of the seeming profit. Would apprivate corporation conduct business along such that he paid for these properties. Property costing, say, \$1. properties. Property costing, say, \$3,-000,000, should not be expected to pay much of an income upon a capitanaxition of \$15,000,000. If he is really operating "at an actual loss," he should be glad to get rid of it to the city or any other party whom he can induce to buy.

Mr. Gould, a keen business man, operates, the electric properties in this city

ates the electric properties in this city ates the electric properties in this city because there is money, good money, in them, but where he can make money un-der his good management and economic administration, the city would loose thou-sands in carrying on an electric plant, as

sands in carrying on an electric she has on her gas works.

Let the city at once advertise for applications for a lease of the gas works and go out of business.

J. S. MCORE.

Richmond, Va., November 10th.

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